



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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May 1, 2012

Mr. Scott Gutting
Interim Executive Director
Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities

Dear Mr. Gutting:

Thank you for your letter of April 17 expressing concern with the process surrounding rulemaking under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.80, baseload electric generation performance standard.

The Department of Commerce apologizes for the oversight of failing to include an Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU) contact on the list of parties receiving initial notification. ICNU was indeed involved in negotiation of the enabling bill and should have been notified at the outset.

We are remedying this situation by extending the timeline of the rulemaking process, and scheduling at least one more face-to-face stakeholder meeting. We are still in the Preproposal Inquiry ("CR-101") phase of rulemaking and it will continue as long as is necessary to receive all relevant comments and to craft a responsive, proposed rule.

The additional, substantive comments included in your letter are being considered together with those of the other stakeholders, and have been posted on the Department of Commerce web page related to the rulemaking.

We have added ICNU contacts Scott Gutting (sgutting@energystrat.com) and Kelly Francone (kfrancone@energystrat.com) to the notification list for this rulemaking process. Thanks for your interest, and we look forward to seeing you at the next stakeholder meeting,

Greg Nothstein
Energy Policy Analyst
Washington State Energy Office